

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 19

Unofficial Copy
M3

1999 Regular Session
9lr2312

By: **Delegates Eckardt, Bozman, W. Baker, McClenahan, Weir, Linton,
Hutchins, Guns, Slade, O'Donnell, Mitchell, Cane, and Wood**

Introduced and read first time: February 19, 1999

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A House Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Shore Erosion Task Force**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Shore Erosion Task Force; providing for the
4 membership of the Task Force; specifying the duties of the Task Force; requiring
5 the Task Force to report to certain committees and the Governor on or before a
6 certain day; and generally relating to the creation of a Shore Erosion Task Force.

7 WHEREAS, Much of the Chesapeake Bay shore is subject to high level wind and
8 to water erosion requiring structured wave barriers that currently do not exist; and

9 WHEREAS, Continued global warming, declining fishing industries, and
10 increasing animal populations impact the health of the Chesapeake Bay and its
11 tributaries; and

12 WHEREAS, Maryland is losing an estimated 260 acres of the Chesapeake Bay
13 shore to erosion annually; and

14 WHEREAS, The prevention and maintenance of shore erosion is essential to the
15 citizens of Maryland to protect the economy and environment, to ensure safety, and to
16 maintain the quality of life and ecological well-being; and

17 WHEREAS, It is the responsibility to properly protect our environment to the
18 extent possible, to maintain the livelihood of all citizens, and to improve the quality of
19 life; and

20 WHEREAS, Local citizen groups and governments have expressed a desire for
21 ongoing intervention to prevent shore erosion and for a clarification of the roles of
22 government in preventing shore erosion; and

23 WHEREAS, It is advantageous to involve citizens in the planning for maximum
24 protection and vitalization of our waterways and shoreline; and

25 WHEREAS, Utilizing the combined efforts of representatives from State and
26 local government, citizens, and industry to meet and to review the Shore Erosion
27 program and to make recommendations for a comprehensive plan for Shoreline
28 Erosion prevention would provide a broad spectrum of solutions; and

1 WHEREAS, A comprehensive Chesapeake Bay shore erosion action plan is
2 needed to implement a program addressing erosion issues and solutions; now,
3 therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the
5 Governor is requested to establish a Shore Erosion Task Force to identify shore
6 erosion needs by county in Maryland, to clarify local, State, and federal roles
7 regarding shore erosion, to establish 5- and 10-year plans with target dates and
8 review, and to review contributing factors to shore erosion; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the Task Force be composed of:

10 (1) One member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of
11 the House, and one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of
12 the Senate;

13 (2) The Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources or the
14 Secretary's designee;

15 (3) The Secretary of the Department of the Environment or the
16 Secretary's designee;

17 (4) The Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, or the Secretary's
18 designee;

19 (5) One representative from the University of Maryland Center for
20 Coastal and Estuarian Studies;

21 (6) One representative from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation;

22 (7) One representative from the Save Our Shore Committee;

23 (8) One representative from the Dorchester County Resource
24 Preservation and Development Corporation; and

25 (9) Two individuals with interest or experience with shore erosion issues;
26 and be it further

27 RESOLVED, That the Governor designate the Chairman of the Task Force from
28 among the members of the Task Force; and be it further

29 RESOLVED, That the Governor encourage the participation of the United
30 States Environmental Protection Agency, the United States Army Corps of Engineers,
31 and any other relevant federal agency in the Task Force; and be it further

32 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall report its findings to the Governor, the
33 Senate Economic and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House
34 Environmental Matters Committee on or before January 1, 2000; and be it further

35 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
36 Legislative Services to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland;

1 the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and
2 the Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates; and be it
3 further

4 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
5 Legislative Services to the Maryland Congressional Delegation: Senators Paul S.
6 Sarbanes and Barbara A. Mikulski, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510;
7 and Representatives Wayne T. Gilchrest, Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Benjamin L. Cardin,
8 Albert R. Wynn, Steny Hamilton Hoyer, Roscoe G. Bartlett, Elijah E. Cummings, and
9 Constance A. Morella, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515.